

## AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A discrete software system for providing an interface between a radiology information system and a central dictation system, said discrete software system including:

a database management system;

a first application module configured to interface [for exchanging data message] with the radiology information system to access said database management system; and

a second application module configured to interface [for exchanging data messages] with the central dictation system and with the first application module to access the database management system; [and

a database management system;] wherein:

the second application module is also configured to receive data from the radiology information system through the first application module

[the first application module includes a procedure for accessing the database management system; and

the second application module includes a procedure for accessing the database management system].

Claims 2-5 (Originally Filed).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended). A method of interfacing a central dictation system to a radiology information system with a software system, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a first application module configured to interface [for exchanging data messages] with the radiology information system and a database management system;

providing a second application module configured to interface [for exchanging data messages] with the central dictation system, [and with] the first application module, and the database management system; and

[providing a database management system;]

receiving data from the radiology information system through the first application module at the second application module

[transmitting queries from said first application module to said database management system; and

transmitting queries from said second application module to said database management system].

Claims 7-12 (Previously withdrawn)

13. (Newly Added) The system according to claim 1, wherein said first application module comprises:

a communications dynamic linked library configured to translate between a communication system format of the radiology information system and a raw data format;

a protocol dynamic linked library configured to convert between the raw data format and ; and

a manager application module configured to exchange information with the second application module.

14. (Newly Added) The system according to claim 1, wherein the second application module comprises:

( a protocol dynamic linked library configured to convert information between a raw data format and a format specified by a messaging protocol of the central dictation system; and

a manager application module configured to exchange information between the radiology information system and the first application module.

15. (Newly Added) The method according to claim 6, further comprising: receiving patient information from the radiology information system at the first application module;

transmitting a query based on the patient information to the database management system from a first manager application module of the first application module; and

determining a status of a record for the patient information in the database management system.

16. (Newly Added) The method accordingly to claim 15, further comprising:

adding the patient information to the database management system in response to the status being non-existence for the record; and

resetting the first application module to a ready condition.

17. (Newly added) The method according to claim 15, further comprising:  
determining a type of event based on the patient information in response to determination of the status being existent for the record.

18. (Newly Added) The method according to claim 17, further comprising:  
determining a status of an accession number associated with the patient formation;  
updating the database management system with the patient information in response to a determination of the status being existent for the accession number; and  
writing the type of event to a trace log.

19. (Newly Added) The method according to claim 17, further comprising:  
determining a status of an accession number in the database management system;  
determining whether a query has been issued for the accession number in the database management system; and  
querying for the accession number in the database management system in response to determination of non-existence status for the accession number and no query being issued for the accession number.

20. (Newly Added) The method according to claim 19, further comprising:  
writing the accession number in the database management system from a  
dictation; and  
writing the type of event to a trace log.
21. (Newly Added) The method according to claim 20, further comprising:  
transmitting a reconciliation message to a manager application module of said  
first application module.
22. (Newly Added) An apparatus for interfacing a central dictation system to a  
radiology information system with a software system, the method comprising the steps of:  
means for providing a first application module configured to interface with the  
radiology information system and a database management system;  
means for providing a second application module configured to interface with the  
central dictation system, the first application module, and the database management system; and  
means for receiving data from the radiology information system through the first  
application module at the second application module.

23. (Newly Added) The apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising:  
means for receiving patient information from the radiology information system at the first application module;  
means for transmitting a query based on the patient information to the database management system from a first manager application module of the first application module; and  
means for determining a status of a record for the patient information in the database management system.
24. (Newly Added) The apparatus according to claim 23, further comprising:  
means for adding the patient information to the database management system in response to the status being non-existence for the record; and  
means for resetting the first application module to a ready condition.
25. (Newly added) The apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising:  
means for determining a type of event based on the patient information in response to determination of the status being existent for the record.